

Table S1. Details of the metric measures used by each method.

Name of the metric measure	Formula
Manhattan	$D(g, G) = \sum_i^m f_g^i - f_G^i $
Delta*	$\delta^*(g, G) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i^m f_g^i - f_G^i $
Euclidean	$D(g, G) = \sqrt{\sum_i^m (f_g^i - f_G^i)^2}$
Covariance	$D(g, G) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i^m f_g^i \cdot f_G^i$
Correlation	$D(g, G) = \frac{\sum_i^m (f_g^i - \bar{f}_g) \cdot (f_G^i - \bar{f}_G)}{\sqrt{\sum_i^m (f_g^i - \bar{f}_g)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_i^m (f_G^i - \bar{f}_G)^2}}$
Kullback-Leibler	$D(g, G) = \sum_i^m f_g^i \cdot \ln \frac{f_g^i}{f_G^i}$
Chi ²	$D(g, G) = \sum_i^m \frac{(f_g^i - f_G^i)^2}{f_G^i}$
Mahalanobis	$S(g, G) = (f_g - f_G)^T \cdot S^{-1} \cdot (f_g - f_G)$

$D(g, G)$, $\delta^*(g, G)$ or $S(g, G)$ is the distance/score of gene g to/in genome G ; m is the number of attributes of the criterion under consideration (for example $m=16$ for dinucleotides); f_g^i is the frequency of attribute i for gene g and f_G^i its frequency in the complete genome; \bar{f}_g and \bar{f}_G correspond to the mean values over all attributes calculated for gene g and for genome G ; f_g corresponds to the vector of all frequencies of the criterion evaluated (for example the 16 frequencies of all dinucleotides) in gene g and S^{-1} corresponds to the covariance matrix.